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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/436,465	11/08/1999	JUNICHI REKIMOTO	SONY-Q-9320	6689

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EXAMINER

JOSEPH, THOMAS J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 08/13/2003

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/436,465	REKIMOTO, JUNICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas J Joseph	2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10-14 and 22-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10-14 and 22-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 14, and 26 – 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Mastering Windows 3.1 Special Edition* by Robert Cowart, Kawabata et al. (US 6,121,951), and Jenson et al. (US 6,236,396).

Claims 1, 14, and 26 are rejected. Cowart teaches the display of a window (p. 809). This display requires use of a hardware device that uses software. This hardware coupled with software teaches the "information processing apparatus" and "information processing method" as cited by the Applicant in claims 1 and 14. Cowart teaches the display of day and time settings means for setting and storing day and time information (p. 809). This information requires the use of a "storage means for repeatedly storing data in a plurality of given states each time said data is created or changed, wherein each given state is based on time information corresponding to a day and time at which said data is stored" as cited by the Applicant. Cowart teaches a method for choosing a "day and time setting means for setting a desired day and time" as cited by the Applicant. When the files are saved, a desired day and time corresponding to the time of saving is stored. This process translates into requiring a "control means for locating data stored at said set day and time based on said time

information and for reproducing said given state of said data at said item at which said data was stored" as cited by the Applicant. Further, Cowart demonstrates locating data that can be reproduced using date and time information (p. 809 – 810). Furthermore, each file represents a plurality of given states each time data is stored or created.

Cowart fails to teach reproducing a given state of said data corresponding to the set day and time. Cowart teaches using date and time information that suggests the need for reproducing a given state using corresponding day data. Kawabata teaches a graphics system that reproduces a given state of said data corresponding to the date (fig. 4a). Kawabata teaches a method for repeatedly storing data in a plurality of states each time said data is created and changed (fig. 4a). Multiple files and multiple graphic images suggest a storage means for repeatedly storing data in a plurality of states. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine a scheduling system that reproduces a given state of said data corresponding to the day for performing the repeated storing taught by Kawabata with the window based date and time system disclosed by Cowart. Doing so provides a graphical method for informing the user of various states associated with both proposed and completed events. Further, any reference to data associated with day is also a reference to time.

Cowart and Kawabata fail to teach an application program for performing a corresponding application, and transmitting and receiving the time of the application in which the application corresponding to said application program being performed, to and from another application program. Jenson teaches an application program for

performing a corresponding application, and transmitting and receiving time of application in which the application corresponding to said application program being performed, to and from another application program (fig. 5a – 5d). Jenson teaches day and time setting means for setting the day and time based on said time of application received from said another application program (fig. 5a – 5d). Items within the calendar can represent a potential application program scheduled for execution at chosen time and day. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the performing a corresponding application, and transmitting and receiving time of application in which the application corresponding to said application program being performed, to and from another application program taught by Jenson with the file handling disclosed by Cowart and Kawabata. Doing so allows for the tracking of file histories and planning for future executions.

Claim 27 is rejected. Cowart teaches a storage means for storing a file in a plurality of given states each time the said file is created or changed, wherein each of given states is based on a date and time setting means for setting the date and time according to a past or future screen (p. 809 – 810). The various files represent various states. Cowart teaches a control means for locating a file stored at a said day and time based on said time information (p. 810). Further, the means for representing various states need not to be automatic. Therefore, the user can store items within data entries that represent a particular state (fig. 15).

Cowart and Kawabata fail to teach a method for loading corresponding past or future screens from said storage means and reproducing the said given state of said file

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along with said corresponding past or future screens. Cowart provides only the date and time of the last storing of the stored data file. Cowart does suggest the need for allowing a user to view a filing history of stored data files. Jenson teaches loading corresponding past or future screens from said storage means and reproducing the said given state of said file along with said corresponding past or future screens (fig. 5a – 5d). It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the loading of corresponding past and future screens taught by Jenson with the date and time setting means disclosed by Cowart and Kawabata. Doing so allows for the tracking of data file histories.

3. Claims 10 – 13 and 22 – 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Mastering Windows 3.1 Special Edition* by Robert Cowart, Kawabata et al. (US 6,121,951), and Jenson et al (US 6,236,396) as applied to claims 1 and 14 above, in view of and Microsoft Outlook 97 by Russell Borland.

Claims 10 and 22 are rejected. Cowart, Kawabata, and Jenson fail to teach a day and time setting means for establishing the said day and time on the basis of time information received from another application program. Outlook teaches using a day and time setting means that sets said day and time on the basis of time information received from another application program, and said control means for reproducing the state of the application program corresponding to the set day and time (p. 65). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to combine the day and time setting means taught by Outlook with the data management system disclosed by Cowart, Kawabata, and Jenson. The appointment reminder is a method for reproducing the

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state of a type of application program corresponding to the set day and time. Doing so provides the user with options such as regular alerts and status updates.

Claims 11 and 23 are rejected. Jenson teaches a means wherein the user selects a day and receives information related to the said day. This is a method for setting a "said day and time setting means sets the day and time closest to said received time information" as cited by the Applicant (fig. 3a). The phrase, "closest to said received time information" cited by the Applicant is a relative term meaning anywhere on a small display screen.

Claims 12 and 24 are rejected. Cowart, Kawabata, and Jenson fail to teach a method for storing and accessing files in a date and time based journal. Jenson teaches a calendar system (fig. 3a). Jenson fails to teach storing and accessing files in a date and time based journal. Outlook teaches a method for storing and accessing files in a date and time based journal (p. 339). This management system translates into a "file management system." It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the method for a method for storing and accessing files in a date and time based journal by Outlook with the time and date filing system taught by Jenson, Cowart, and Kawabata. Doing so enables the user to track store and retrieve file data, such as documents in addition to schedule information.

Claims 13 and 25 are rejected. Cowart, Kawabata, and Jenson disclose in rejected claim 10 an application program containing "a position and time information management program for managing input position information and the time information corresponding to the position information" as cited by the Applicant in claim 13. The

selecting of days on the calendar is time related information and is also selecting a position. Accessing information already becomes an operation for "managing input position information and the time information corresponding to the position information" as cited by the Applicant.

Response to Arguments

4. The Applicant amends claims 1, 14, and 26 then cancels claims 2 – 9 and 15 – 21 while requesting reconsideration for the corresponding dependent claims.

Applicant asserts that Jenson fails to teach transmitting an application. The Examiner responds by stating that the calendar disclosed teaches scheduling of events. The scheduling of events provides a method that can be applied to the transmitting of events.

Further, the Applicant asserts that Borland discloses mail data with a time stamp without teaching the transmitting and receiving the Application itself. The Examiner responds by stating Borland teaches the time stamp itself while the Cowart and Kawabata teaches the actual transmitting of Application files.

Due to at least the above reasons, the rejection of claims 1, 10 – 14, and 22 – 27 remains standing.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas J Joseph whose telephone number is 703-305-3917. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on 703-308-0640. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

tjj

July 14, 2003




KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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